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What if America Became a Celebritocracy?

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WHAT IF AMERICA BECAME A CELEBRITOCRACY?

Joshua Kob

The fact about human existence is not that it is a tragedy, but that it is a bore

-H.L. Mencken

Politics is entertainment, and I love it. Like tough frat guys who watch football, politics gives me the same kind of excitement. The mudslinging, controversies, and debates, give my life substance and meaning. Fortunately, with the sweeping victory of Arnold Schwarzenegger's gubernatorial campaign, many Americans are starting to view politics the same way I do. Politics no longer has to be serious and boring. It can be fun and entertaining.

In California, voters distrusted people with experience, and the majority of us searched for someone who held the least. Therefore, we elected the "Terminator," closely followed by Adult Film Star "Mary Carey" who received a whopping 10,000 votes. Also, a man named "Schwartz man" stole 7,000 votes from Arnold and proved how exhilarating democracy can be.

The truth of the matter is that voters feel more comfortable with entertainers than slimy politicians. Why vote for someone who spent years in education, when one can elect a person capable of shooting down 300 futuristic robots within two minutes? Since Americans love television, why don't voters replace all politicians with actors, actresses, entertainers, and even cartoon characters like Cartman from Comedy Central's *South Park*?

Luckily, our "democracy" is fading into another American Revolution where the patriots are not people like Thomas Paine, but entertainers like Jerry Springer, Oprah

Winfrey, and the all-too-loving Fran Drescher. This revolution will neither be fought on battlefields, in trenches, nor our backyards; this revolution will center on the remote control, transforming our democracy into a "celebritocracy."

Unfortunately, many critics and pundits believe a celebritocracy will devastate America. Apparently, the so-called "experts" on politics know nothing about this new form of government. A celebratic government involves more than good-looking people, plastic surgery, and unreasonable amounts of wealth. It involves viewing social, economic, and foreign problems with open-mindedness and compassion. This is where the "Compassionate Celebocrat Party" comes in. The political heavyweights of the party include Barbara Streisand, Julia Roberts, and Dr. Phil. On the other side of the spectrum lies the "Rehab Party," represented by Robert Downey Jr., Tom Arnold, and Anna Nicole Smith. Also, a celebritocracy will abolish the two-party system that has dominated American politics for too long. The third and strongest party represented by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Hugh Grant, and Pauly Shore call themselves the "Groper Party." Furthermore, each party recently started working on official platforms, and when finished, they will air on commercials during the hit show *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*.

Not only will the corrupt, two-party system disappear, but America's campaign finance laws will change forever. Since voters want to see their favorite celebrities, entertainers can raise funds through advertisements and commercials. Rumor has it that Tom Arnold just signed a four-year contract with Gatorade. While promoting their drinks, Tom can campaign for the Rehab Party's new "12-step Platform" to get America back on track.

With this celebratic government emerging, many wonder how politicians could let this happen. How could people become so aggravated that they're willing to elect entertainers? The answer remains simple. The public is fed up with politics because they're sick of hearing about the so-called "issues." Who cares about health care, social security, foreign policy, and abortion? What we need is more punch lines and phrases. Where are the Patrick Henry's of our time? Today, most politicians talk in a language that the general public, and I, can't comprehend. For instance: "The rising deficit and increasing inflation with record number job loss could trigger a long depression sending America back into the 12th century." Boring!

Why can't liberals notice why George W. Bush is so popular? It's because he and his administration act like entertainers! For instance, in Bush's State of the Union Address he called Iraq, Iran, and North Korea "evil-doers." The public loved that one, and it reminded them of an old John Wayne movie where the bad guys better beware. Moreover, when Bush Jr. became President, he knew exactly what America wanted. He knew in our hearts we craved a sequel. So what did he do? He brought daddy's gang back onto

the scene. Wolfowitz, Rumsfeld, Cheney, Powell, Rove, all returned to the main stage. Once the actors were cast, the movie was ready to start rolling, and we just had to wait. Then September 11th came, allowing Bush to offer what Americans desired. Our much anticipated sequel closely approached. Finally, the day came when George W. Bush appeared on our tv screens telling Saddam Hussein he had “72 hours” to leave because the United State was coming. Whether Saddam liked it or not, Bush would not let anything get in the way of “Gulf War II: Junior Gets Revenge.”

Then on May 1st, 2003 George W. Bush landed on an aircraft carrier declaring “mission accomplished,” and we cheered as our President looked stronger than ever. He reminded us of the good guy who would never let evil prevail. Bush Jr. took it all in and knew his sequel had been a hit among Americans. Furthermore, some pundits started to declare President Bush as one of the most popular presidents to go down in history. Despite a record national unemployment rate, an escalating death toll in Iraq, and a 6.8 trillion dollar debt, Bush proved entertainment is more important than policy.

With an election right around the corner, I can only hope and pray for another action packed thriller. Maybe our next President can get a makeover on *Queer Eye*? Or attend a NASCAR event and yell, “Gentlemen, start your engines!” (Wait, that did happen). More importantly, the next President needs to take on the role of “Actor in Chief,” and give the American public pure drama. Although Bush has mastered this technique, he must closely watch his new opponent. Kerry’s style is starting to look marvelous. He’s already been on TV surfing, hunting, and riding motorcycles. And more recently, his famous punch lines are growing popular among Americans. When he says, “President Bush, I have three words for you. Bring it on!” My mouth starts to drool, my blood boils, and I am filled with love for our celebritocracy!

In the upcoming years, I encourage everyone in America to join me in the fight against democracy. We cannot afford to let boring and intelligent people get elected to public office anymore. It only causes chaos and confusion. The revolution has already begun, and millions of us will defend celebritocracy and promote it throughout the world. In the words of President Bush, “You are either with us, or against us.” ☺